

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information, contact:
Cindy Mumby
Director of Governmental & Community Relations
410-340-5376
camumby@harfordcountymd.gov

Harford County Offering \$7,500 COVID-19 Relief Grants to Childcare Providers; Other Grants Now Available to New Businesses

BEL AIR, Md., (Nov. 4, 2020) - Harford County is offering \$7,500 grants to help qualifying childcare providers with ongoing COVID-19-related expenses.

Applications for childcare provider grants will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, December 4 and are available to licensed in-home, nonprofit or faith-based establishments on a first-come, first-served basis. Funds must be distributed by December 30, 2020.

Funded by the federal CARES Act, the grant money for qualified providers can be used for modifications made to maintain social distancing requirements and provide safe, quality childcare. Expenses may include personal protective equipment (PPE), payroll expenses, inside and outside facility enhancements such as additions or upgrades to maintain physical distancing standards and interest payments on business loans or lines of credit.

"Many of our smaller childcare providers have been adapting to COVID-19 restrictions since the pandemic started and now many of them are hosting students who are learning virtually," County Executive Barry Glassman said. "Our newest grants will help some of those childcare providers continue to provide safe and comfortable environments for our children who cannot be home with their parents during the day."

This is the county's fifth COVID-19 relief grant program. Applications are still being accepted for <u>Small Business Relief</u> (\$7,500), <u>Homegrown Harford Farm Relief</u> (\$2,500), <u>Business Owner Assistance</u> (\$5,000) and <u>Restaurant Relief</u> (\$10,000) grants. Previously available to businesses open before March 9, 2020, these grants are now available to businesses that have opened since then. The application deadline is also December 4, 2020.

Childcare providers who have previously received a Harford County COVID-19 Business Relief Grant are not eligible for the Childcare Provider Relief Grant.

Program guidelines and applications are on the county's website at http://bit.ly/CCPRGrant. Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the guidelines before making their submission.

Questions may be directed to COVIDgrantquestions@harfordcountymd.gov.

